Learning Conversation Notes	
Name of Partner:	Date:
Placer County Office of Education	January 4, 2005
Number of Children Served: 2282	Ages: <2 (249), 2-3 (632), 3-5 (1401)
When Served:	Gender:M (1065)
July 04, 2004 to present	F (1217)
	Ethnicity: W (1895), H (221), A (75),
	NA (15), B (10), O (46)

Conversation Participants: Jeannette Lovejoy, Pauline Vlamis-Cowan, Nancy Baggett, Don Ferretti, Francine Nunes, Darcy Roenspie, Michey Eichenhofer, Mike Powers

## Outcomes:

- All children will have access to high quality child care, enabling them
  to reach appropriate developmental milestones and have special
  needs identified as early as possible so that they are learning and
  ready for school.
- Childcare providers in Placer County are empowered and knowledgeable about quality child development and utilize the industry network to sustain this knowledge and also mentor others who are caring for children.

## **Performance Measures:**

- Demographics (number of 0-5 served by gender, age, and when services were provided).
- The number of recruited childcare providers who become licensed and/or accredited (in the process).
- Assessment scores of the environmental rating scales administered to providers.
- The number of participants and their affiliation attending each training, along with the number of provider's actually providing these trainings.
- The number of mentors and protégés recruited and trained, along with the number of childcare providers they have each assisted.
- Number of children referred to other services (by type of service) as a result of early identification of special needs.
- Results of the provider/parent training satisfaction survey.
- Results of the resource & referral annual provider surveys around sustainability of providers and the quality of care within the industry.
- Pictures & stories directly relating to the program's outcomes.

What is this data telling us about achievement of outcomes?

- Approx 25 newly licensed or in the process of becoming Licensed childcare providers.
- There is a high percentage of childcare providers attending training workshops now as compared to attendance in the past.
- Reaching approx 440 of 1115 (1/3) of all childcare providers.
   Feedback from surveys is telling us providers have gleaned helpful information from the workshops.
- The accreditation process has helped providers to formulate their programs with success demonstrated for example by better attention span of the children.
- Anecdotes speak to the development of the children.
- A&S low scores are reviewed and recommendations are made to the providers.
- Participation in training is increasing, but measurements to A&S will have to be forthcoming.
- There is a contact log containing parent, problems, and referrals made.
- Observations during home visits are used to determine how a provider can improve their environment and how they applied the skills learned in training.
- Thelma Harmes Environmental rating scale is used to walk the prospective provider through in order to evaluate the environment.
- Childcare providers now see that their goal is to help children interact in developmental ways.
- How many providers are obtaining child development permits may be a measurement of increase in commitment and quality of services.
- Referrals are made to Placer infant center, Alta Regional Center, Warmline, SELPA, depending on the age/need of the child in guestion.
- Lists of resources are handed out at all workshops or mailed when a contact was made.
- There is a mentoring program which requires home visits, logs, existing conditions and changes that are made.
- Mentors are assisting in improving business skills, environment, improving relationships with parents, and behavior problems.
- Mentoring empowers the providers to see the value of their job and their contribution to the community.
- Providers are networked in the community and are knowledgeable with many of the resources available.
- There is an incredible trusting network of resources.

In what ways will we apply what we have learned from our data? (Con't)

- Contracted trainers are required to submit an outline, and the appropriate trainer individual will be set up with the workshop in concert with the appropriate developmental milestone.
- Developmental milestones are highlighted for each workshop.
- Continue to keep information of support /support groups updated and accessible.
- Have accreditation meeting to survey how they are using and sharing their knowledge
- Will be creating survey around sustainability and the quality of care
- Find a way to market R&R so they know we are available to market for children with special needs/puzzling behavior.
- Improve communication with resource specialist in the agency.
- Collect more site visit stories, both good and bad.
- Keep an outcome anecdote form by the phone, door, table etc, sort by groups, name groups (themes), count the number of anecdotes (number gives weight), identify the specific anecdote that highlights the theme, share the specific anecdote.

## Other points that were made during the conversation:

- Winterfest was a good networking mechanism
- Health and safety fair in September
- Interest from other childcare providers
- Partnership with Cares Project
- Networking with other First 5 partners
- Empowerment really means providers not dependent on the programs
- Experienced Providers are so excited about what they have learned and are sharing this information with their peers.

## **Next Steps:**

- Data collection: Break down age and gender and ethnicity
- Capture some stories
- Next learning conversation in July 05
- Check in with First 5 staff in March regarding development of survey
- Contact Early Childhood Relationships Support Project